GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4924
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2001
CII`S VIEWS ON DTH
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has criticised the guidelines on Direct-to-home services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a), (b) & (c): After the issue of guidelines for Direct-to-Home BroadcastingServices on 15th March, 2001, this Ministry has not received any suggestions/representations from Confederation of Indian Industry.However, prior to the finalisation of the Guidelines, CII had suggested inter-alia, that itshould not be made mandatory for DTH operators to set up their own earthstations and that Indian earth station companies with a maximum of 49% foreign investment be allowed to offer uplinking facilities to licensed DTHoperators. Acceptance of the suggestion was not considered feasible as it implied deviation from the stipulations regarding ceilings on foreign holding and, holdings by broadcasting companies and /or cable network companies.